

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 03683 102104Z

62

ACTION EUR-12

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TAGS: PORG, UN, NATO

SUBJECT: PRE-UNGA CONSULTATION IN EUROPE IN LATE JULY

REF: (A) STATE 159500 (B) HELLMAN-PEREZ TELECON

1. AT JULY 9 POLADS MEETING, A MAJORITY OF REPS REPORTED THEIR CAPITALS COULD AGREE TO JULY 23 AS DATE FOR NATO CONSULTATION ON UNGA. ONLY OBJECTIONS TO A LATE JULY DATE WERE VOICED BY TURKISH AND CANADIAN REPS, WHO SAID THEIR AUTHORITIES OPPOSED DISCUSSION OF UNGA SPECIAL SESSION AT NATO AND THOUGHT THAT CONSULTATION SHOULD BE HELD DURING TRADITIONAL SEPTEMBER PERIOD WHEN MORE WOULD BE KNOWN ABOUT TACTICAL SITUATION ON SUCH ISSUES AS KOREA AND THE MIDDLE EAST.

2. MOST REPS (INCLUDING FRANCE, FRG AND UK) EXPRESSED PREFERENCE FOR CONSULTATION IN POLITICAL COMMITTEE RATHER THAN IN NAC. US REP (SHOSTAL) STRESSED IMPORTANCE US ATTACHES TO PRESENCE OF POLICY-LEVEL OFFICIALS WHO COULD ENGAGE IN DIALOGUE ON BASIC ISSUES. IN REPLY TO DUTCH POINT THAT 7TH SPECIAL SESSION WILL BE DISCUSSED IN OTHER FORA, US REP SAID WE DO NOT SEEK DETAILED EXCHANGE ON THIS TOPIC IN NATO. SEVERAL REPS EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT SHORTNESS OF TIME RE-
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PAGE 02 NATO 03683 102104Z

MAINTAINING UNTIL JULY 23 WOULD MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR CAPITALS TO PREPARE ADEQUATELY.

3. AFTER POLADS MEETING, WE REITERATED TO SEVERAL DELEGATIONS OUR HOPE FOR HIGH LEVEL REPRESENTATION FROM CAPITALS AT UNGA

CONSULTATION. UK REP (MARGETSON) PROMISED TO CONVEY OUR VIEWS TO LONDON. FRENCH REP (BEAUCHATAUD) SAID HE EXPECTS PARIS WILL SEND HIGHEST AVAILABLE MAN IN THEIR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS SECTION (PROBABLY DEPUTY HEAD). FRG REP (CITRON) SAID HE WOULD REPORT US VIEWS AND THOUGHT THAT NUMBER TWO MFA OFFICIAL DEALING WITH UN MATTERS WOULD COME. ITALIAN REP (FERRETTI) SAID THAT ROME AGREES WITH HOLDING A REINFORCED NAC ON JULY 23 AND SAID ITALY WOULD BE REPRESENTED BY THE HEAD OF ITS UN DESK.

4. AT JULY 10 SPC MEETING, US REP (PEREZ) STRONGLY URGE THAT ALLIES FIRM UP JULY 23 DATE AND SEND HIGHEST LEVEL AVAILABLE OFFICIALS WHO DEAL WITH UN ISSUES, PREFERABLY TO A MEETING WITH NAC, THOUGH MEETING WITH POLADS MIGHT BE ENFISAGED IN VIEW OF STRONG PREFERENCE FOR LATTER FORUM EXPRESSED BY MANY ALLIES. US REP NOTED THA LAEJAEED#TO BE BEST TIME TO HOLD CONSULTATION BECAUSE OF AUGUST VACATION PERIOD AND FACT THAT IN LATE AUGUST AND EARLY SEPTEMBER SENIOR OFFICIALS WOULD BE EXTREMELY BUSY WITH 7TH SPECIAL SESSION. UK REP (BAILES) SAID HMG COULD SEND THE HEAD OF ITS UN DEPARTMENT TO A JULY 22 BRUSSELS MEETING BUT HIS TRAVEL PLANS PRESENTLY RULED OUT JULY 23. (UK REP PRIVATELY INDICATED TO US REP STRONG OBJECTION TO NAC AS FORUM FOR CONSULTATION.) CANADIAN AND TURKISH REPS SAID THEY WOULD REPORT US VIEWS TO THEIR CAPITALS.

5. AS A PERSONAL IDEA, SPC CHAIRMAN (KASTL) SUGGESTED THAT MR. BUFFUM MIGHT WISH TO ADDRESS NAC ON JULY 23 TO GIVE US VIEWS ON UN ISSUES. THOSE SENIOR OFFICIALS FROM CAPITALS WHO WOULD BE AVAILABLE MIGHT ATTEND MEETING ON "OPEN-ENDED" BASIS. REGULAR NATO UNGA CONSULTATIONS COULD THEN BE HELD AT TRADITIONAL TIME IN EARLY SEPTEMBER. US REP SAID HE WOULD REPORT CHAIRMAN'S SUGGESTION. CHAIRMAN SAID POLADS WOULD TAKE DECISION ON DATE FOR UNGA CONSULTATION AT THEIR JULY 15 MEETING.

6. COMMENT. ALLIED COMMENTS SO FAR LEAD US TO BELIEVE THERE IS GOOD POSSIBILITY OF FIRING UP JULY 23 CONSULTATION, ALTHOUGH SUMMER VACATION SEASON IS CAUSING TIMING DIFFICULTIES FOR SOME LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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PAGE 03 NATO 03683 102104Z

SENIOR OFFICIALS. HOLDING CONSULTATION AS REINFORCED NAC CONTINUES TO MEET STRONG RESISTANCE AND OUR PRESENT READING IS THAT JULY 23 DATE WILL BE EASIER TO SELL IF CONSULTATION IS HELD AT POLADS LEVEL. ALLIED REPS' COMMENTS THUS FAR INDICATE A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF SENIOR OFFICIALS FROM CAPITALS WOULD ATTEND SUCH A SESSION.

7. RECOMMENDATION: THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUFFUM TENTATIVELY PLAN TO COME TO BRUSSELS FOR JULY 23 CONSULTATION, PENDING FINAL DECISION IN POLADS JULY 15.

8. ACTION: REQUEST GUIDANCE IN TIME FOR JULY 15 POLADS.
PEREZ

NOTE BY OC/T: #AS RECEIVED.

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